(viii) Grant amount of BPL connection has been enhanced to Rs.2200/- from Rs.1500/-.

(ix) To take care of the cost escalation, cost norms for village electrification have been revised upward.

Lower Subansiri Hydro Project

2534.SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal has been received to stop the work of ongoing project at Lower Subansiri Hydro Project, unless the latest Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) is cleared;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken to protect the population and cultivable land downstream from floods, which occur on sudden release of water from these hydro projects in Arunachal Pradesh and Assam?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) and (b) The Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) for Subansiri Lower HE Project has already been completed in accordance with the then guidelines of Ministry of Environment and Forests (MoEF) and environmental clearance was accorded by MoEF on 16.07.2003.

(c) As a special case, a study on "Downstream Impact of Subansiri Lower HE Project" has been awarded to Guwahati University by NHPC Ltd. and the study is under progress. The study is being undertaken by the University of Guwahati in association with the experts of Dibrugarh University & IIT, Guwahati and the study report is to be submitted by University of Guwahati by September, 2009.

Setting up of new energy efficiency company

2535.SHRI DHARAM PAL SABHARWAL: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is considering to form a new energy efficiency company, to be named as Energy Efficiency Services Ltd. (EESL);

(b) if so, the details in this regard;

(c) what would be the equity participation/share-holding pattern of the new entity; and

(d) what would be the business plans of this company?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) Yes, Sir.